

REMARKS

Claim 1 is the only claim currently pending in the application. The application and claims have not been amended in response to the Office Action, therefore, no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,017,375 (Duell). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Referring to Figs. 1-4, Duell discloses an air purifier unit including a front cover 47, a filter 42, a main support 12, a rear cover 46, and a top cover 40. The front cover 47 includes an inlet and the top cover 40 includes an outlet and is slightly bowed. A motor 19 is mounted to the main support 12 and drives a fan 30. In operation, the fan 30 draws air through the inlet cover 47, through the filter 42, through a penetration in the main support 12, through the fan 30 and out of the top cover 40. The motor 19 is powered by an electric cord (Fig. 3) that extends away from the air purifier through a hole in the rear cover 46. There is no indication that the air purifier unit of Duell or the outlet is associated with a vertical wall. The length of the electric cord and a typical plug at its end that would extend from a wall outlet indicates that the air purifier is positioned at a distance from a wall or vertical surface during use.

Referring to Figs. 3, 4, 7 and 8, the present application is directed to an air filtration device 10 that is configured for operational association with a generally vertically-oriented surface, typically a wall W. The air filtration device 10 includes a housing 12 and at least one air outlet formed in the housing 12. The air outlet 12 is preferably comprised of a plurality of vents 30 that are provided in a side surface of the housing 12. The air outlet or vents 30 cooperate with the wall W or other generally vertically oriented surface to which the air filtration device 10 is associated for enhanced dispersion of filtered air expelled through the air outlet. When the air filtration device 10 is plugged into an electrical outlet E, the filtered air is

urged through the vents 30 and impinges upon the associated wall W to enhance dispersion of the filtered air throughout the room.

Claim 1 of the present application is directed to an air filtration device that is configured for operational association with a generally vertically-oriented surface and recites, inter alia, a housing...at least one air outlet formed in said housing...for cooperation of said air outlet with a generally vertical surface to which said air filtration device is associated for enhanced dispersion of filtered air expelled through said air outlet.

Applicants respectfully submit that Duell does not anticipate claim 1 of the present application. Specifically, there is no teaching, suggestion or disclosure in Duell of an air filtration device with an outlet that cooperates with a generally vertical surface to which the air filtration device is associated for enhanced dispersion of filtered air expelled through the air outlet. Duell includes an air purifier unit that expels air through a top outlet that does not cooperate with a generally vertically oriented surface. Specifically, the air purifier unit of Duell teaches away from associating the housing or air outlet of the air purifier with a vertically oriented surface, generally a wall, by providing a length of electric cord extending from the rear of the housing and a typical plug that space the air purifier unit from a vertically oriented surface in use. Based upon the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw any rejection of claim 1 based upon anticipation by Duell.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Request for Reconsideration and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claim 1, is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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